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UNCLAS WARSAW 000633

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

EUR/NCE FOR DKOSTELANCIK AND MSESSUMS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: KTIA SENV XG ECE UNAUS

SUBJECT: POLAND LOOKING INTO USG CONCERNS ON AARHUS

GUIDELINES

REF: STATE 53503

¶1. (U) Sensitive but Unclassified. Not for internet distribution.

¶2. (SBU) Econoff discussed USG concerns about Aarhus Convention guidelines on public participation in international fora with Anna Grupinska, Director of the Department of the United Nations System and Global Affairs of the Polish Foreign Ministry. Ms. Grupinska is newly returned to the MFA and was unaware of the Geneva meeting and the discussion of the guidelines. However, she promised to look into our questions and instruct the Polish delegation to respond appropriately. Ms. Grupinska noted that as a democratic country, Poland supports ngo participation in international fora, but she was very sympathetic to U.S. concerns about legal responsibility and finances. Post believes that Poland is likely to be sympathetic to U.S. concerns on this issue and work with the USG to address our concerns.

HILLAS